

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: November 9, 2018

### **Veterans Day Ceremony**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion will be hosting a Veterans Day Ceremony in the Cottage Grove Armory on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.

We can all better value the freedoms we have because of the men and women who have served in defense of our nation. There are nearly 20 million Veterans living among us, in every state and territory and from every walk of life. Veterans Day gives us the opportunity to thank living Veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served – not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty.

### **Leaf Pickup Begins**

The cool, crisp mornings are just one of the signs that Fall has arrived. The other sign is all the magnificently colored leaves that are losing their grip on the trees. Many of those leaves have fallen just in time for the first round of the Leaf Pickup Program which will start on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

The annual Leaf Pickup is conducted to help remove leaves from the City streets and sidewalks so that as the winter rains begin they don't create slippery conditions or plug up the storm systems. Citizens can even place leaves from their yards out for pickup as a neighbor-friendly way to dispose of leaves.

Leaves can be placed out in the roadway near the curb on the weekend before the pickup begins. The leaves should be placed out of the automobile and bicycle travel lanes without blocking the gutter. Do not bag the leaves or put any other materials in the piles. Crews collect the leaves and then use them throughout the year for mulch in parks and along trails. The City also makes the leaf pile available to other organizations for gardening or mulching needs.

For more information about the leaf pickup dates or program visit the City's web page.

### **Scenic Bikeway Meeting**

The City Manager attended a meeting of the State Scenic Bikeway Advisory Committee on Tuesday. The committee discussed the preparations for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Scenic Bikeway program.

### **Opal Whiteley Collection Fundraiser**

Join the Cottage Grove Library, Friends of the Cottage Grove Library and the Axe & Fiddle to celebrate Opal Whiteley's birthday on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at The Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main Street, Cottage Grove. The event will be a special fundraiser to get an archival quality display for the library's Opal Whiteley Collection. There will be birthday cake, performances by the library's ukulele club, readings from Opal's works, and highlights from the Opal Whiteley Collection. For more information contact Natasha Chitow, Librarian at [library@cottagegrove.org](mailto:library@cottagegrove.org) or by calling (541) 942-3828.

**10% of all sales during the event will be donated to the Opal Whiteley Collection Fund, and donations will be accepted during the event.**

### **Police Department Trainings**

Today, the department's newest dispatcher, Becky Erbes, graduated from the Basic Telecommunications Academy. The department has heard great things about her experience at the academy and members of staff will attend her graduation ceremony. After graduating, Becky will have three additional days of training at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) Emergency Medical Dispatch course. We can't wait to have her back.

Sgt. Shawn Branstetter is currently attending the DPSST Supervisor Course. It is a two-week course and we anticipate that he will bring back some great ideas to implement at the department.

Officers Wendie Jackson and Harry Sullivan reported for their first day at DPSST to attend the Basic Police Academy with an anticipated graduation date of March, 2019.



### **October Building Inspection Services Report**

For the month of October, the Building Division of the Public Works & Development Department issued 67 permits, 1 for a new home, and performed 132 inspections in Cottage Grove. Staff issued 24 permits, 3 for new homes, and performed 68 inspections for the City of Creswell. In Veneta, 22 permits were issued, 1 for a new home, and performed 108 inspections. Staff reviewed and completed 19 plan sets in October and 8 plan sets are in review or on hold for additional information from the applicant.

### **Water Production Department Hosts Pall Operator Workshop**

On Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, the City's Water Production Department hosted a no-cost workshop sponsored by Pall Water for Oregon operators of Pall systems. Pall Water is the manufacturer of the City's drinking water membrane filtration system. In attendance were 20 operators from 13 different cities. Also in attendance were design engineers and equipment control

representatives. Pall Water representatives gave a presentation on several topics covering membrane operations including: maintenance, modes of failure, instrumentation, controls, expansion and system upgrades. The workshop provided an opportunity for the Oregon operators to network with Pall Water support representatives, design engineers, control support representatives and fellow operators. Operators earned continuing education units for their attendance. This was the third time Pall Water has sponsored this workshop in Oregon and the second time Cottage Grove has been the host. Pall representatives said they are willing to make this an annual no-cost training event for Oregon operators of their filtration systems.

### **Row River Nature Park Design Charrette**

Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 the City welcomed 60 University of Oregon students for a day of creative and thoughtful discussion about the Row River Nature Park. The students and staff met at the City Shops where City Manager, Richard Meyers offered a brief introduction to the students and answered questions regarding the City and Row River Nature Park.

The students left the shop and took a walking tour of the Park with Eric Mongan from Public Works & Development. Amanda Gilbert of the Coast Fork Watershed Council and Water Treatment Operators Sam Haynes and Steve Norman met the students at the Park and provided brief presentations. Representatives interested in creating a new BMX track showed the students where they envision a replacement track.

After the tour the students returned to the shop where City Councilor Jake Boone offered a brief history of Cottage Grove. Amanda Ferguson, City Planner, also joined the group and talked about issues associated with land use and flood plain development. The students met in small groups to discuss ideas for the park. After the discussion each group then prepared a short presentation of their ideas. At the end of the day Eric Mongan offered the students a scenic route out of town so the students could see our Historic Main Street, Bohemia Park and the Chambers Bridge.

In the coming weeks each student in the course will write a report that will be required to contain ten suggestions for Row River Nature Park. When the reports are all compiled we will have a finished product from the class likely totaling 700 ideas and recommendations. Information on the class can be found at <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/rowriverpark/>

### **City Offices Closed**

City Offices will be closed for observance of Veterans Day on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

### *Quote of the Week*

*Better than honor and glory, and history's iron pen,  
Was the thought of duty done and the love of his fellow-men.*

*~ Richard Watson Gilder ~*